AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An automated device recordation and registration process for automatically registering, on a remote computer, an embedded device~~ A method performed by a device to register the device with a remote computer, the method comprising:

storing an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address that is predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

~~a feature detection process for~~ detecting feature information associated with ~~a~~ the device, the feature information comprising device-specific information ~~to be registered~~; and

~~a feature transmission process for~~ registering the device with the remote computer by transmitting ~~said~~ the feature information to the ~~a~~ remote computer at ~~a~~ the known address using a self-describing computer language~~; and a registration process for registering said device by storing said feature information on said remote computer~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the self-describing computer language comprises eXtensible Markup Language (XML).

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the known address corresponds to ~~known address is~~ a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the known address corresponds to ~~known address is~~ a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) address.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the device-specific ~~feature~~ information comprises a device type and a device instance.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the device type ~~is~~ comprises a model number of the device and ~~said~~ the device instance ~~is~~ comprises a serial number of the device.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes~~ comprises a database for storing ~~said~~ the feature information.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 7, wherein determining comprises ~~including a device registration status process for~~ examining ~~said~~ the database to determine if ~~said~~ the device was previously registered ~~on said~~ with the remote computer ~~and initiating said registration process if said device is not registered~~.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 7 ~~8~~, wherein ~~said~~ the remote computer resides on a distributed computing network and ~~said~~ the ~~feature~~

transmission process transmits said feature information is transmitted to said the remote

computer via said the distributed computing network.

10. (Currently Amended) The device registration process method of claim 9, wherein

said the distributed computing network is comprises the Internet.

11. (Currently Amended) The device registration process method of claim 9, wherein

said the device is connected to said the distributed computing network via a direct network

connection.

12. (Currently Amended) The device registration process method of claim 9, wherein

said the device is connected to said the distributed computing network via a dial-up network

connection.

13. (Currently Amended) The device registration process method of claim 9, wherein

said the device is connected to said the distributed computing network via a wireless network

connection.

14. (Currently Amended) The device registration process method of claim 9 7, wherein

said the device-specific information relates to includes embedded software which controls said

the device device's functionality, where said the embedded software has having a first specific

version identifier associated with it.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ <u>method</u> of claim 14<u>,</u> wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> database stores a software update[[,]] having a <u>second</u> ~~specific~~ version identifier ~~associated with it, for said embedded software of said device, where said,~~ <u>the</u> software update ~~is the~~ <u>comprising a different</u> ~~newest~~ version of <u>the</u> embedded software ~~available for said device~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ <u>method</u> of claim 15<u>, further</u> <u>comprising</u> ~~including a software comparison process for~~ comparing ~~said~~ <u>the first</u> version identifier ~~of said software update~~ to ~~said~~ <u>the second</u> version identifier ~~of said embedded software of said device~~ to determine if ~~said~~ <u>the</u> embedded software ~~of said device~~ needs to be updated.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ <u>method</u> of claim 16<u>, further</u> <u>comprising</u> ~~including a software update process, responsive to said software comparison process~~ ~~determining that said~~ <u>the</u> ~~embedded software needs to be updated, for~~ updating ~~said~~ <u>the</u> embedded software ~~residing on said device with said~~ <u>using the</u> software update <u>if it is determined</u> <u>that the embedded software needs to be updated</u>.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ <u>method</u> of claim 7<u>,</u> wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> feature information ~~includes~~ <u>comprises</u> system information concerning ~~the~~ location, ownership, and configuration of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> device.

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19. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 18, further comprising configuring the ~~including a system information interface for allowing the owner of said device to configure said~~ system information via a system information interface.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~ the device ~~includes~~ comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) device web server and ~~said~~ the system information interface ~~is~~ comprises a software application residing on ~~said~~ the device web server, and the method further comprises:

~~where the owner of said device can edit said~~ editing the system information ~~of said device~~ by accessing ~~said~~ the system information interface via a remote web client.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 19, further comprising: ~~including a system information transmission process for~~ transmitting ~~said~~ the system information to ~~said~~ the remote computer using ~~said~~ the self-describing computer language ~~and for storing said system information on said database of said remote computer~~.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 21, further comprising ~~wherein said~~ ~~he~~ ~~system information transmission process includes a system information comparison process for~~ comparing ~~the~~ system information on ~~said~~ the remote computer to ~~the~~ system information on ~~said~~ the device to determine if ~~said~~ the database on ~~said~~ the remote computer needs to be updated with ~~said~~ the system information on ~~said~~ the device.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 22, further

comprising ~~wherein said system information transmission process includes a system information~~

~~upload process, responsive to said system information comparison process determining that said~~

~~system information on said database needs to be updated, for~~ updating ~~said~~ system information

in the ~~on said~~ database with ~~said~~ the system information ~~on said~~ from the device.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 7, wherein

~~said~~ the device ~~includes~~ comprises a device web client and ~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes~~

comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) remote web server.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 24, wherein

~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes an~~ comprises application logic to interface ~~said~~ the remote

web server and ~~said~~ the database.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 25, wherein

~~said~~ the ~~feature transmission process utilizes said~~ device web client ~~to upload said~~ transmits the

feature information from ~~said~~ the device to ~~said~~ the remote web server, ~~where said~~ and the

application logic transmits ~~transfers said~~ the feature information from ~~said~~ the remote web server

to ~~said~~ the database.

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27. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the device ~~includes~~ comprises a device mail client and ~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes~~ comprises a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) remote mail server.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 27, wherein ~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes an~~ comprises application logic to interface ~~said~~ the remote mail server and ~~said~~ the database.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~device registration process~~ method of claim 28, wherein ~~said feature transmission process utilizes said~~ the device mail client ~~to upload said~~ transmits the feature information from ~~said~~ the device to ~~said~~ the remote mail server, ~~where said~~ and the application logic ~~transfers said~~ transmits the feature information from ~~said~~ the remote mail server to ~~said~~ the database.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-implemented method for registering, on a remote computer, a device embedded in an apparatus,~~ A machine-readable medium that stores instructions that are executed by a device to register the device with a remote computer, the instructions causing the device to ~~comprising~~:

      store an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address that is predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

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~~detecting~~ detect feature information associated with ~~a~~ the device, the feature information

comprising device-specific information ~~to be registered~~; and

~~transmitting said~~ register the device with the remote computer by transmitting the feature

information to ~~a~~ the remote computer at ~~a~~ the known address using a self-describing computer

language;~~ and registering said device by storing said feature information on said remote~~

~~computer~~.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the self-describing computer language comprises eXtensible

Markup Language (XML).

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said known address is~~ the known address corresponds to a Uniform

Resource Locator (URL).

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said known address is~~ the known address corresponds to a

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) address.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the feature information comprises a device type and a device

instance.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 34, wherein ~~said~~ the device type ~~is~~ comprises a model number and ~~said~~ the device instance ~~is~~ comprises a serial number.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the remote computer ~~includes~~ comprises a database for storing ~~said~~ the feature information.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 36, ~~further comprising instructions~~ wherein determining comprises examining ~~said~~ the database to determine if ~~said~~ the device was previously registered on ~~said~~ the remote computer~~; and initiating said registration process if said device is not registered~~.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein ~~said~~ the device ~~includes~~ comprises embedded software which controls the device ~~said device's functionality, where said~~ the embedded software ~~has a specific~~ having a first version identifier ~~associated with it~~.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 38, wherein ~~said~~ the database stores a software update[[,]] having a second ~~specific~~ version identifier, the ~~associated with it, for said embedded software of said device,~~

~~where said~~ software update ~~is the newest~~ comprising a different version of the embedded

software ~~available for said device~~.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 39, further comprising instructions that cause the device to:

~~comparing said version identifier of said software update to said version identifier of said~~

~~embedded software of said device~~ compare the first version identifier to the second version

identifier to determine if ~~said~~ the embedded software ~~of said device~~ needs to be updated.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 40, further comprising instructions that cause the device to:

~~updating said~~ update the embedded software ~~residing on said device~~ with ~~said~~ the

software update if it is determined that ~~said~~ the embedded software needs to be updated.

42. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the feature information ~~includes~~ comprises system

information concerning ~~the~~ location, ownership, and configuration of ~~said~~ the device.

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable

medium of claim 42, further comprising instructions that cause the device to receive the system

information ~~including a system information interface for allowing the owner of said device to~~

~~configure said system information~~.

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 43, further comprising instructions that cause the device to:

~~transmitting said~~ transmit the system information to ~~said~~ the remote computer using ~~said~~ the self-describing computer language; ~~and storing said system information on said database of said remote computer~~.

45. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 44, further comprising instructions that cause the device to:

~~comparing the~~ compare system information on ~~said~~ the remote computer to the system information on ~~said~~ the device to determine if ~~said~~ a database on ~~said~~ the remote computer needs to be updated with ~~said~~ the system information ~~on said~~ from the device.

46. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-implemented method~~ machine-readable medium of claim 45, further comprising instructions that cause the device to:

~~updating said~~ update the system information on ~~said~~ the database with ~~said~~ the system information ~~on said~~ from the device if it is determined that ~~said~~ the system information on ~~said~~ the database needs to be updated.

47 and 48. (Cancelled)

49. (New) A device that registers with a remote computer, the device comprising:

a processing device that executes instructions to:

      store an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address

that is predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

      detect feature information associated with the device, the feature information

comprising device-specific information; and

      register the device with the remote computer by transmitting the feature

information to a remote computer at the known address using a self-describing computer

language.

50. (New) A method performed by a device to register the device with a remote

computer, the method comprising:

      storing an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address that

is predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

      detecting feature information stored for the device, the feature information comprising

device-specific information and information relating to an apparatus associated with the device;

and

      transmitting the feature information to the remote computer at the known address using a

self-describing computer language.

51. (New) A machine-readable medium that stores instructions that are executed by a

device to register the device with a remote computer, the instructions causing the device to:

store an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address that is

predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

detect feature information stored for the device, the feature information comprising

device-specific information and information relating to an apparatus associated with the device;

and

transmit the feature information to the remote computer at the known address using a

self-describing computer language.

52. (New) A device that registers with a remote computer, comprising:

a processing device that executes instructions to:

store an address of the remote computer, the address comprising a known address

that is predetermined and that is not obtained via a discovery process;

detect feature information stored for the device, the feature information

comprising device-specific information and information relating to an apparatus

associated with the device; and

transmit the feature information to the remote computer at the known address

using a self-describing computer language.